

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

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R 050625Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1107

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1336

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PFOR, TW, PA

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF ROC AMBASSADOR TO PARAGUAY

1. PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO'S NOMINATION OF LT GEN HU HSIN (5170/3512) AS REPUBLIC OF CHINA AMBASSADOR TO PARAGUAY TO SUCCEED HU SHIH-HSUN (AKA REYMOND S.H. HOO) 5170/0013/0534) (WHO WILL RETURN TO TAIWAN) WAS APPROVED BY KMT CENTRAL STANDING COMMITTEE FEB 27. FORMAL APPROVAL BY CABINET EXPECTED TO FOLLOW WITHIN A FEW DAYS. LT GEN HU, NATIVE OF PREMIER CHIANG 'S HOME PROVINCE OF CHEKIANG, SAID TO ENJOY THE CONFIDENCE OF BOTH PREMIER AND PRESIDENT CHIANG KAI-SHEK, AND SERVED FROM 1960 TO 1965 AS CHIEF MILITARY AIDE TO PRESIDENT CHIANG. CURRENTLY COMMANDING GENERAL OF ROC SECOND FIELD ARMY, LT GEN HU LAST YEAR WAS RUMORED TO BE PRIME CONTENDER FOR FUTURE SELECTION AS C-IN-C OF THE CHINESE ARMY. AGE AND HEALTH (HE RECENTLY HAD SUCCESSFUL OPERATION FOR GALLSTONES) MAY HAVE WORKED AGAINST FURTHER MILITARY ASSIGNMENT.

2. LT GEN HU CONSIDERED CAPABLE, COMPETENT AND INFLUENTIAL OFFICER, COMMANDING THE RESPECT OF BOTH HIS FELLOW OFFICERS AND AMERICAN ASSOCIATES, WHO CAME TO KNOW HIM WELL DURING HIS LONG STINT AS J-3 IN MND. FROM ALL ACCOUNTS IS CONFIDENTIAL

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FAVORABLY AND WARMLY DISPOSED TOWARD U.S. COMMAND OF ENGLISH

IS CONSIDERED VERY GOOD. MARRIED TO ALICE CHANG (ALSO ENGLISH-SPEAKING), TWO CHILDREN (BORN 1940 AND 1944).

3. NOT YET KNOW IF APPOINTMENT MARKS REVERSE OF RECENT TREND OF GRADUALLY REMOVING GENERALS FROM ROC AMBASSADORIAL POSTS. (FEW YEARS AGO THE ROC HAD 6-8 GENERALS SERVING AS AMBASSADORS ABROAD, BUT RECENTLY THIS NUMBER DROPPED TO THREE -- KOREA, THAILAND AND JORDAN). NEEDLESS TO SAY, NAMING CAREER DIPLOMATS TO AMBASSADORIAL POSTS IS WELCOME IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHICH IS OVERBURDENED WITH A SURPLUS OF SENIOR DIPLOMATS.

4. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: BORN CHEKIANG PROVINCE, AUGUST 31, 1914, AND ATTENDED CHEKIANG PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL (1930-1933). GRADUATE OF CLASS #10, WHAMPOA MILITARY ACADEMY. ATTENDED THE U.S. ARMY ARMORED SCHOOL FT. KNOX (1944) AND THE U.S. ARMY C AND GSC, FT LEAVENWORTH, 1945. 1946-47 SERVED AS A STAFF OFFICER WITH THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE. RETURNING TO CHINA IN 1948, BECAME CO, SPECIAL ORGANIZATION REGIMENT, NEW 5TH CORPS. 1949-1951 SERVED AS C-OF-STAFF OF WU SUNG-SHANGHI DEFENSE COMMAND AS A SENIOR STAFF OFFICER IN THE PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE AND IN 1953 TRANSFERRED TO BECOME C-OF-STAFF OF THE TA-CHEN DEFENSE COMMAND. 1954-1955, COMMANDER OF 46TH DIVISION. COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMORED FORCE COMMAND, 1955-1958. PROMOTED TO MAJ GEN 1955. 1959-60, SERVED AS EXECUTIVE GENERAL ASSISTANT, DEPUTY C-OF-STAFF AND MND OPERATIONS. AT U.S. NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS WARFARE COURSE, CORONADO, CALIF (1959, AND ROC ARMED FORCES UNIVERSITY (1960). PROMOTED LT GEN 1959, SERVED AS CHIEF MILITARY AIDE TO PRESIDENT CHIANG (1960-1965), AND AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AND MND OPERATIONS (1965-1971) BEFORE RECEIVING CURRENT ASSIGNMENT AS CG, SECOND ROC FIELD ARMY ON APRIL 1, 1971.
MCCONAUGHY

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